

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 01342 171633Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----171638Z 042336 /47

O 171600Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5669

INFO AMCONSUL CAPETOWN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GENEVA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1342

EXDIS

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

FOR VICE PRESIDENT'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR RH US UK ZA

SUBJ: CONSULTATIVE GROUP: PLANS

1. I HAD MY FIRST MEETING WITH GRAHAM WHO JUST ARRIVED FROM LONDON. IT WAS LARGELY ORGANIZATIONAL. HE PROVIDED ME WITH SOME BACKGROUND PAPERS AND WE DISCUSSED GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND IMMEDIATE PLANS.

2. BELIEVE GRAHAM UNDERSTANDS OUR CONCEPT OF THE CONSULTATIVE GROUP AS A UK ENTITY, THAT HE HAS ABANDONED THE IDEA OF SUBMITTING QUESTIONNAIRES TO THE NATIONALISTS AND WILL PROCEED ON THE BASIS OF DISCUSSION OF THE ISSUES
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PAGE 02 LUSAKA 01342 171633Z

INVOLVED IN DRAWING UP A CONSTITUTION IN THE FIRST INSTANCE AND ONLY AT A LATER POINT PROCEED TO THE PROBLEMS OF THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD. TRANSITIONAL QUESTIONS MAY BE RAISED BY THE NATIONALISTS EARLIER, IN WHICH CASE WE WILL SOLICIT THEIR VIEWS.

3. GRAHAM'S PROPOSAL FOR THE INITIAL ROUND OF TALKS

IS THAT WE TOUCH BASE FIRST WITH THE NATIONALISTS AND THEN WITH THE RHODESIANS. HE HAS SEEN SITHOLE AND WE WILL MEET WITH MUZOREWA IN GABORONE MAY 19 AND 20. NKOMO IS OUT OF CIRCULATION IN EUROPE UNTIL THE END OF THE MONTH. WE HOPE, HOWEVER, TO BE ABLE TO MEET (PROBABLY SEPARATELY) WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT IN MAPUTO ON THE 21ST AND GO ON TO SALISBURY ON THE 23RD WHERE CONSTITUTIONAL EXPERT STEEL WOULD JOIN US FOR 3 OR 4 DAYS' TALKS. GRAHAM HOPES TO BE BACK IN LONDON BY JUNE 3 AND TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE ON THE 7TH. WE ARE PROCEEDING ON THE BASIS OF THIS SCHEDULE, LEAVING LUSAKA FOR JOHANNESBURG MAY 18.

4. GRAHAM DOES NOT SEEM TO HAVE A COPY OF THE PATRIOTIC FRONT DETAILED CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSAL FROM GENEVA (MENTIONED FIFTH TICK PARA 4 STATE 112239). HE HAS BEEN USING THE DETAILED ANC CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSAL SUBMITTED DURING THE VICTORIA FALLS CONFERENCE OF 75-76. IF THE GENEVA PROPOSAL IS IN A FORM WHICH CAN BE TRANSMITTED BY CABLE, I WOULD APPRECIATE THE DEPARTMENT'S FORWARDING IT TO ME SOONEST IN LUSAKA, INFO GABORONE.
LOW

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Message Attributes

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